ORIGINAL

DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY
Department of Commerce and
Consumer Affairs
335 Merchant Street, Room 326
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Telephone: (808) 586-2800



BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)	
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION)	DOCKET NO. 2008-0273
Instituting a Proceeding to Investigate the Implementation of Feed-in Tariffs.))	

DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY'S RESPONSES TO DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM'S ("DBEDT") SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION REQUESTS ON HECO COMPANIES' AND THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE'S JOINT PROPOSAL ON FEED-IN TARIFFS

Pursuant to the Regulatory Schedule approved in the Order Approving the HECO Companies' Proposed Procedural Order, as Modified, filed on January 21, 2009, the Division of Consumer Advocacy submits its RESPONSES TO DBEDT'S SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION REQUESTS ON HECO COMPANIES' AND THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE'S JOINT PROPOSAL ON FEED-IN TARIFFS in the above docketed matter.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, February 11, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI

Executive Director

DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY

DOCKET NO. 2008-0273

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY'S RESPONSES TO DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM'S ("DBEDT") SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION REQUESTS

DBEDT-IR-1 (CA) Please identify which section of the joint proposal was prepared by

the CA, and which section was prepared by HECO.

RESPONSE: The proposed feed-in tariff ("FIT") represents a joint collaboration

between Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., Maui Electric Company,

Ltd., Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc. (collectively, the "HECO

Companies"), and the Division of Consumer Advocacy ("Consumer

Advocate"). As such, the proposed FIT was prepared by both the

HECO Companies and the Consumer Advocate.

DBEDT-IR-2 (CA)

Please explain the process through which HECO and the CA collaborated to develop the joint proposal.

RESPONSE:

The HECO Companies and the Consumer Advocate developed, reviewed, and critiqued drafts passed between the HECO Companies and the Consumer Advocate. The HECO Companies and the Consumer Advocate further relied upon the commentary, analysis, and advice provided by experts retained by the HECO Companies and the Consumer Advocate separately.

DBEDT-IR-3 (CA)

Was there complete consensus or agreement between HECO and the CA on all sections of the joint proposal? If not, please identify those sections where the CA and HECO did not have complete

consensus.

Yes. RESPONSE:

DBEDT-IR-4 (CA)

Please explain what the CA believes to be the role of the joint FIT proposal in HECO's procurement of renewable energy resources that are committed in the Energy Agreement.

RESPONSE:

The proposed FIT is one mechanism through which the HECO Companies can procure renewable energy resources that meet the public policy goals described in the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative ("HCEI") Agreement. The relative importance of the proposed FIT in meeting the public policy goals described in the HCEI Agreement depends upon a number of factors, which includes, but is not limited to, (1) future energy demands upon the HECO Companies' systems, (2) the results of the clean energy scenario planning process, (3) and the level of FIT participation by eligible providers. The Consumer Advocate is willing to consider other parties' proposals as to how best to incorporate the FIT into the HECO Companies' procurement processes.

DBEDT-IR-5 (CA)

Does the CA believe that the joint FIT proposal will benefit existing net energy metered customers? If yes, please explain how.

RESPONSE:

Depending upon the specific characteristics of an eligible system and the intentions of the net energy metered customer, the proposed FIT could benefit a current net energy metered customer. An explanation of the benefits available to the current net energy metered customer under the proposed FIT scheme would depend upon a more detailed discussion of the customer's renewable energy system and the customer's intentions with respect to the use of its produced energy and its desire to interact with the HECO Companies as a business actor.

2008-0273 5

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY'S RESPONSES TO DBEDT'S SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION REQUESTS ON HECO COMPANIES' AND THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE'S JOINT PROPOSAL ON FEED-IN TARIFFS was duly served upon the following parties, by personal service, hand delivery, and/or U.S. mail, postage prepaid, and properly addressed pursuant to HAR § 6-61-21(d).

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DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, February 11, 2009.